Central Silk Board is executing two special SWARNAJAYANTI GRAM SWAROJGAR YOJANA (SGSY) Projects in the name of "Sonali Sutha Prakalpa" at a total cost of Rs. 9.72 crore. A third Project on "Weaving and Marketing of Silk Products" of Rs. 9.48 crore is also being implemented for a period of four years commencing from 2001-02. The Government of Assam is also actively considering creating of new avenues and infrastructure to develop these industries.

Impact of removal of quantitative restrictions on SSI

1311. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the impact of dismantling of quantitative import controls on the small scale industry; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Government is constantly monitoring the impact of dismantling of quantitative import controls on the economy including the small scale industry (SSI) in the country. While the removal of Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) have exposed the SSI to greater competition, there has not been any surge in imports as a consequence of this step. The small scale industry in India have enough competitive strengths to withstand the impact of dismantling of quantitative import controls. Even after the removal of QRs, protection to the industries is available in the form of raising custom duties upto the bound levels, imposing anti-dumping duties, taking safeguards measures in case of surge in imports, etc.

Dereservation of some items in the interest of SSI

1312. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to dereserve more items in some sectors;